



CITY of NORFOLK

Office of the Mayor

Paul D. Fraim
Mayor

February 28, 2013

The Honorable Sean T. Connaughton
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Secretary Connaughton:

I am writing to personally thank you for your support of the General Assembly's efforts to adopt new legislation for transportation funding in the Commonwealth. The City of Norfolk has been supportive of these efforts and looks forward to the day when we can implement several new transportation projects in Hampton Roads. I also would like to request your assistance in better understanding one of the key provisions of the adopted Conference Committee Report for HB 2313. The requirement that Hampton Roads localities expend or disburse transportation resources equal to or exceeding amounts expended in Fiscal Year 2008, in my opinion, needs further clarification. This provision potentially impacts the budget of every locality in the Hampton Roads region so it's critically important that we understand its impact.

Based on our review of the City's Capital Improvement Program, our Fiscal Year 2008 expenditures for transportation were approximately \$24.7 million. Of that amount, \$12 million was from local tax sources while the remaining \$12.7 million represented VDOT's contribution. Based on our interpretation of the language in the Conference Committee Report, if signed into law, the City of Norfolk would need to sustain an expenditure level of \$12 million for transportation. If this is correct, it is an unacceptable requirement. It represents another unfunded mandate that further restricts our ability to manage our fiscal responsibilities.

In closing, thank you again for your hard work and support for this difficult legislative initiative. We look forward to your review and interpretation of this new requirement. I hope there is a way we can move this forward without creating new fiscal burdens for the local governments in Hampton Roads.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul D. Fraim", is written over a printed name and title.

Paul D. Fraim
Mayor

cc: Norfolk City Council